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Specification

The following amendments are made to the specification without adding any new subject matter. The additions thereto are double underlined, while the deletions there from are contained in double square brackets or strikethrough.

Page 6, paragraph 51

Also, said Windows 2000™ NT platform comprises an Active Directory providing capability to enable role-based hierarchical secure usage scenarios whereby a Data Exchange Member is given a certificate that allows them to gain specialized, secure access to pre-determined parts of the system of the present invention. Sixth, as best shown in FIG. 1, the data exchange means 26 of the present invention is provided in association with a De-Militarized Zone, namely a system area protected by a first firewall not shown 50 protecting the Extranet application layer, and a second firewall not shown 52 protecting the production layer, also in a manner that is well-known.

Page 7, paragraph 55

The present invention further comprises an audit and control means not shown 58 to ensure that all data transactions within the system are verified and validated. This is provided by means of system and activity logging in cooperation with the reporting means 54. In addition, process flow controls are implemented within the data exchange means 26 to identify and escalate problem resolution with respect to unsuccessful electronic transactions.